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Fedden, Marguerite

How to do your own
upholstery and machining

London

1912

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HOW TO DO YOUR OWN UPHOLSTERY AND MACHINING.

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By
MARGUERITE FEDDEN

1st Class Diplômée N.T.S.C. Principal of
St. Martha's College of Housecraft.

PRICE ONE PENNY :
or 1½d. post free.

**WOMEN'S INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL,
7, BOMBY STREET, ADELPHI,
LONDON, W.C.**

1912.

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The Nursery Training School,

4, KING EDWARD ROAD, HACKNEY, N.E.

Founded in 1911 by the
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 (Incorporated)

7 John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

Chairman—MRS. M. MILLINGTON.

Hon. Treasurer—MRS. FREDERIC FRANKLIN.

Hon. Consulting Physician—

ERIC PRITCHARD, Esq., M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P.

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- 1.—To be wives and mothers.
- 2.—To be nurses in private families.
- 3.—To be nursery assistants under various public bodies.

The course of training lasts a year and includes:—

I.—THEORETICAL INSTRUCTION.

- 1.—Infant hygiene, including an elementary knowledge of childish ailments, their symptoms and treatment.
- 2.—A study of child nature, learning how to play sensible games with children and make toys with materials at hand.
- 3.—Cookery, laundry, mending and making clothes (with special regard to their own and the children's under their care) and housewifery.

II.—PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION.

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FEES.—£30 for the year, payable quarterly in advance, and can be paid if desired, in weekly instalments of 12/-. This includes training, board, residence, washing and medical attendance. Applications from those unable to pay the full fees will be considered on their merits.

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The A.T.C.
and Domestic Workers Association.

7, JOHN STREET, ADELPHI, STRAND, W.C.

Telephone: 1151 City.

WOMEN'S INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL

THE

A.T.C.

has a large number of competent Supply Servants
Cooks, Waitresses, Visiting Dressmakers,
Upholsteresses, Carpet Menders, Needle-
women, and other classes of Women Workers, including
Charwomen and Caretakers.

The Association was established by the Women's Industrial Council in 1898,
and is managed by a Committee of the Council.

Registered Employment Agency, L.C.C.

LETTERS, enclosing stamped and addressed envelope for reply should be sent
to Miss L. Delafield, Hon. Sec., A.T.C., 7, John Street, Adelphi, Strand, W.C.

POST OFFICE ORDERS should be made payable to Miss L. Delafield, and
crossed London County and Westminster Bank, Temple Bar Branch.

HOURS FOR INTERVIEWS: 10-30 a.m. to 3-30 p.m. daily except Saturday.
The office is closed on Saturdays, for a week at Christmas and
Easter, and during the month of August, but letters are attended to
as usual.

TO EMPLOYERS

The A.T.C. consists of a large staff of women, who have been personally recommended for honesty, sobriety, general character, and knowledge of their work. The charwomen are usually women who have been in good service. The jobbing dressmakers and others are workers of skill and experience, who have been selected and tested with great care. The A.T.C. is thus able to offer to employers in every district of London and country, assistance in all domestic emergencies. Compliance with demands under 48 hours' notice cannot be guaranteed. If shorter notice is given, an extra shilling for telegraph charges should be sent, and a worker can then usually be supplied within a few hours.

HOW TO DO YOUR OWN
UPHOLSTERY AND
MACHINING

BY

MARGUERITE FEDDEN

1ST CLASS DIPLOMÉE, N.T.S.C. PRINCIPAL OF ST. MARTHA'S
COLLEGE OF HOUSECRAFT

PRICE ONE PENNY

OR 1½D. POST FREE

WOMEN'S INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL,
7, JOHN STREET, ADELPHI,
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—
1912

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How to do your own Upholstery and Machining.

PART I. UPHOLSTERY.

Upholstery is a trade which takes many years to learn, and requires great skill and experience, but it is quite possible for the housewife to learn a few simple methods for renovations, etc., the pocket thereby being very much spared.

For example, a saving of several shillings is effected if a wicker chair is upholstered at home instead of being bought ready upholstered.

For simple upholstery a knowledge of laundry work, cutting out, sewing and machining is necessary, besides proficiency in the use of the tool box.

One of the most useful things to know is how to join and patch carpets.

Carpets are expensive to buy, in the first place, and they often become very much faded and worn in a place where there is much traffic, as near the door, and are quite good in a place where there is no traffic, as under the table.

In this case it is well to know how to change the bright and faded parts neatly and strongly.

Bedding should receive care from the housewife; it is very much neglected in some houses.

On the following pages will be given the making and care of bedding.

OUTFITTING A MINIATURE BEDSTEAD, 22 x 14.

Underlay, or Platform.

This is a flat piece of material laid on the bedstead over the spring mattress, to protect the upholstered mattress from friction and rust marks.

Materials used are felt, hessian, thick unbleached calico (bound with holland tape), or quilted and padded flannelette (not recommended).

Method of making.

1.—Cut the underlay according to the size of the bedstead, measuring from post to post and from edge to edge.

2.—Hem the edges (herringbone felt), sew tapes at the corners and sides to attach cover to the bedstead.

Mattress.

Materials required.

1½ yards white and blue striped linen ticking, 30 inches wide; 5 yards blue and white mattress binding; 2 strings of tan-coloured mattress buttons or tufts; one ball of mattress twine; one mattress needle; 3 lbs. of Algerian fibre, or hair and rugging mixed. Dimensions of specimen mattress, 22-ins. x 14-ins. x 3-ins. Surplus ticking to be used for bolster, etc.

Method of Making Mattress.

1.—Cut top and bottom exactly the same size, 22-ins. x 14-ins., the way of the selvedge, allowing no turnings.

2.—Cut two pieces for sides, 22-ins. x 3-in., selvedge ways.

3.—Cut two pieces for ends, 14-ins. x 3-ins., welt way. Tack all together right side outside in an oblong, forming the "box" of the mattress, having the seams on right side.

4.—Machine all joins together, leaving 4-5 inches opening for stuffing at one end. The corners should be stitched by hand; this makes them more secure.

5.—Fold binding exactly in half lengthways. Press well.

6.—Tack binding at corners of box first.

7.—Tack the binding on to the mattress, beginning in middle of one end, and being careful that the raw edges of seams come right up into fold of binding. Leave an opening in the box at one end as before.

8.—Machine binding all round the edges, stopping short 1 inch each side of each corner. Leave long ends of cotton.

9.—Mitre the corners and sew by hand, continuing from where stitching left off. This should be done on each side of the mitres, the material being too thick to take stitches through securely.

10.—Remove tacking threads.

11.—Stuff, getting mattress even and flat. Place a ball of rugging in each corner to ensure its being well filled. Avoid over filling mattress. Its surface should be *slightly* rounded *only*, and the corners should not sink.

12.—Pull stuffing into place with a mattress needle, close end, stitch up and finish off binding.

13.—Quilt the box, using a mattress needle and twine, and putting two rows of equally spaced stitches exactly under each other. Start 1½ inches from corner.

14.—Button or tuft the mattress evenly, having the selvedge tufts 3 inches from the ends and 6 inches apart in rows. Mark both sides with pins first.

15.—Have welt tufts midway between.

16.—Bring up threaded needle from lower part of mattress and pass back, leaving a loop of twine, to other side.

17.—Place buttons in loops on top side, and on under side have knots under buttons.

18.—Tie all loosely till every one is in place, then pull up evenly.

19.—Fix corner and centre tufts first, using tailor knots. Avoid pulling string too tightly. There should only be a slight depression at each tuft.

20.—In all cases have twice the space between the buttons that there is between the button and the corner.

Full Sized Mattress.

1.—Length from end to end inside bed posts.

2.—Width from edge to edge.

3.—Depth of box, 4½ inches, or, if the mattress is to be placed straight on the spring, 6 inches may be allowed.

4.—Allow 1½ lbs. of filling to the square foot.

5.—Leave an opening for filling of 12 to 15 inches.

6.—Start quilting 3 inches from corner.

7.—Have selvedge buttons 6 inches from edge and 12 inches apart, welt buttons midway between.

Various Fillings.

Wool, Vegetable Wool, Hair, Rugging, Algerian fibre, Flock. A mixture of Hair ¼ and Rugging ¾. The last is recommended, being springy and not liable to form into clots.

Mattress Cover.

For this unbleached calico may be used.

Method.

1.—Cut like the mattress, making it sufficiently large to slip over easily, and allow for shrinkage.

2.—Bind as for mattress, using unbleached linen tape.

3.—Leave the upper side of one end unbound, fasten with false hems, sew buttons on one and make button holes on the other—or use tapes.

Bolster.

Materials required.

Ticking left over from mattress, $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. of down or feathers, 1 skein of No. 3 piping cord, a small piece of beeswax or soap.

Method of Making Bolster.

The length of bolster should equal width of mattress.

- 1.—Cut a piece of ticking selvedge way, 15 x 15 (width of mattress allowing 1-in. for turning).
- 2.—Cut two rounds for the ends, each $2\frac{1}{2}$ -ins. in diameter.
- 3.—Cut two pieces of ticking $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. wide on the cross, in which to stitch the piping cord. Each piece should be 8-ins. long.
- 4.—Make a join on wrong side of ticking, with selvedge running round, and stitch up $\frac{1}{2}$ of the length from each end, leaving $\frac{1}{2}$ in middle unstitched.
- 5.—Gather ends to size of rounds, stroke carefully. Secure piping cord in crossway pieces of ticking by run and backstitch.
- 6.—Stitch gathered part and round end together, distributing fulness carefully and inserting piping, first at one end then at the other.
- 7.—Wax or soap wrong side of bolster to prevent feathers from coming through when they are put in.
- 8.—Turn bolster on right side and stuff with down or feathers, paying special attention to the ends.
- 9.—Sew up the opening neatly.

Full Sized Bolster.

- 1.—Length—Width of mattress and 1-in. for turnings.
- 2.—Width—36-ins. and 1-in. for turnings.
- 3.—Ends—36-ins. in circumference, or about $11\frac{1}{2}$ -ins. across, round or oval in shape (if oval cut with stripes running across).

Bolster Slip.

Made of unbleached calico or may be made of white linen or sheeting, if it is wished the colour of the unbleached calico should not shew through upper case).

Method.

- 1.—Cut out as for bolster, but do not gather ends or use piping cord.
- 2.—Run and fell the seam.
- 3.—Run and fell one round or oval into the end, turning the fell on to the slip.
- 4.—Hem the other end of the case, and hem round the round or oval.
- 5.—Sew the edges of the two hems together.

Bolster Cover or Case.

Made of linen or white calico.

Method.

- 1.—Cut the cover as for slip, making one round or oval, and allowing turnings.
- 2.—Allow at the other end the depth of the round or oval, and the hem and turnings.
- 3.—Run and fell the seam.
- 4.—Set in the round or oval.
- 5.—Make a hem at the other end.
- 6.—Work eyelet holes at either side of the seam under the turning of the hem.
- 7.—Run a tape in the hem, with which to draw up and tie the end.

Pillow.

Material required.

Take a piece of ticking left over from mattress and bolster, 12-ins. long by 9-ins. wide, allowing for turnings.

Method.

- 1.—Make up with selvedge running round the pillow.
- 2.—Fold in half on wrong side and machine both ends, and $\frac{1}{2}$ at each end of side.
- 3.—Soap and wax it well on the wrong side.
- 4.—Turn on right side, pull out corners and fill with 2-ozs. of down or feathers.
- 5.—Pay attention to the corners and sew up the opening neatly.

Full Sized Pillow.

Sizes—2-ft. 6-ins. x 19-ins. or 3-ft. 6-ins. x 29-ins.

Pillow Slip.

Made of unbleached calico, calico or linen.

Method.

- 1.—Cut, allowing turnings.
- 2.—Run and fell bottom and side.
- 3.—Hem the two edges of the other end and sew together over the pillow.

Pillow Cover or Case.

Made of unbleached calico or linen calico.

Method.

- 1.—Cut as above, allowing usual turnings at side and one end, and twice the depth of the required hem and turnings at the other end.
- 2.—Run and fell seams at side and one end.
- 3.—Make a turning the required width at the other end, and hem.
- 4.—Make button holes and sew on buttons, or attach tapes inside, opposite each other, at three different points.

Full Sized Pillow Cases.

Circular calico may be used for full-sized cases.

Cash's frilling may be sewn round the pillow case.

Allow $1\frac{1}{2}$ times round the pillow and the depth of frill for each corner.

Sheet Sides to Middle.

Material required.

Two pieces of calico, 15-ins. by 11-ins. and see that there is selvedge on one of the sides of each.

Method.

- 1.—Join selvages by means of the Old German or fish-bone seam, keeping the sheet perfectly flat and free from puckering and ridges.
- 2.—Hold work flat over left hand, between thumb and first finger, with right side uppermost.
- 3.—Secure thread by a double backstitch and bring out needle on right side of join close to top.
- 4.—Keep edges well together.
- 5.—Point needle the other way and bring out similarly through the other side.
- 6.—Draw thread closely to make edges of selvedge meet, but not to let them overlap.
- 7.—Continue taking a stitch on each side alternately till join is finished.
- 8.—Have stitches very close together, not more than two or three threads apart.
- 9.—Finish off with one or two backstitches.

10.—Press join under damp cloth with hot iron. This join is used on account of its flatness.

11.—Turn down narrow hems at sides and one end, and a broad one at other end to mark top when making the bed. Machine up neatly.

Rules for Care of Bed Linen.

- 1.—Look over and repair as required.
- 2.—Use Old German seam for worn sheets when turning sides to middle.
- 3.—Use calico or linen patches to mend holes.
- 4.—Strengthen corners with tape.
- 5.—Cut down worn sheets to smaller sheets or to make bolster and pillow slips, ironing sheets, rubbers and bandages.
- 6.—Allow 3 pairs of sheets to each bed.

Blanket.

Materials required.

A piece of old blanket 29-ins. by 21-ins., some coloured blanket wool and white darning wool.

Method.

- 1.—Turn down half an inch all the way round and tack. On thick blanket a turning would not be made as it would be too bulky.
- 2.—Work blanket-stitch all the way round with coloured wool.
- 3.—Work a square flannel patch, using white darning wool.
- 4.—Darn two or three thin places.
- 5.—Mark with star stitch, using coloured wool.
- 6.—Remove tacking threads and press on the wrong side.

Rules for Care of Blankets.

- 1.—Shake frequently.
- 2.—Darn thin places, avoiding a straight edge in the darn; if too worn use a flannel patch.
- 3.—If worn down middle, treat as sheets, joining with German seam or flannel join.
- 4.—Cut down old blankets for under blankets, ironing blankets, hot water bottle covers, house flannels, stair pads, and for sickroom purposes.
- 5.—When not in use store in a dry place with some moth preventive.
- 6.—Two or three worn and thin blankets may be quilted together to make one thick one.

CARPETS.

Kinds of Carpets.

- 1.—Loop Pile Ex. Brussels and Tapestry (the best for wear).
- 2.—Cut Pile Ex. Wilton and Turkey, etc.
- 3.—Reversible Ex. Kidderminster and Felt.

JOINING CARPETS.

A Selvedge Join.

Materials required.

$\frac{1}{4}$ yard Brussels carpet, 1 packet of carpet needles, 1 yard of fringe to match carpet, 3 yards of worsted binding or webbing to match carpet, carpet thread No. 16.

Method.

- 1.—Cut carpet across the middle and tack the selvedges together on wrong side as evenly as possible. Press down pile to right side with needle. When possible match the pattern.
- 2.—Join by stabbing through selvedge only, not the pile, with a carpet needle threaded with carpet thread, with knot at end.
- 3.—Bring needle through from back at extreme right side and pass it back two threads to the left.

4.—Bring out from back in the middle of and below last stitch.
5.—Insert two threads ahead and bring out halfway back and below. Continue working thus until the join is finished.

6.—Open out carpet and press on wrong side with heavy hot iron, placing a damp cloth under the iron.

7.—Turn back raw edges of carpet at sides and ends about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Mitre the corners and cut away any unnecessary thickness of carpet on the under hem, where it will be covered by the mitre.

8.—See that the mitring at each end is balanced, i.e., each side should run in an opposite direction. Tack carefully and press.

9.—Bind with carpet binding, seeing that it is well stretched and neatly mitred at corners in a line with the mitring of the carpet. Tack in position.

10.—Fell on the binding.

11.—Place fringe at each end and secure with two rows of back stitches not taken right through. Let the lower part of the fringe reach the upper part of carpet binding. Again press carpet binding on wrong side. If properly joined there should be no division when carpet is held up to the light. This forms a mat.

A Weft Join.

For this specimen obtain $\frac{1}{2}$ yard carpet, thread, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards binding and cut across the weft way by a thread.

Method.

- 1.—Allow two threads, turning on each side, and where possible match the pattern. Tie-tack together at intervals on the wrong side.
- 2.—After tie-tacking edges together, oversew two threads deep. Work back over the first row of stitches crossing them.
- 3.—Press well and herringbone loosely across the top of the join, taking the stitches beyond the oversewing on each side. Remember the herringbone stitches must not show on the right side.
- 4.—Press well again and finish off with binding at the back.

Another method.

- 1.—Match pattern, allowing 1 inch turnings.
- 2.—Press back turnings, tack down and herringbone.
- 3.—Tie-tack at intervals and then join by stab stitch.
- 4.—Finish off as above, after pressing well.

A Mitred Corner.

Materials required.

$\frac{1}{4}$ yard of border carpet and 2 yards of worsted binding.

Method.

- 1.—Fold the carpet into a square on the wrong side, mark the line of the diagonal join on both back and front with chalk, matching the pattern exactly. Tack all round carefully.
- 2.—Join, using same carpet stitch as that used for joining selvedges. Cut away superfluous carpet at back leaving 1 inch turnings.
Tack down turnings and hem or herringbone after pressing.
Bind with carpet binding laid flat at point of specimen.
Mitre it at the point and let it extend three inches in both directions.
- 3.—Bind the raw edges of the carpet with doubled binding. Run and backstitch it on the wrong side to the right edge of the carpet $\frac{1}{2}$ in. from the edge.
- 4.—Turn over and fell on to wrong side. Remove tackings and brush away chalk lines; press well.
N.B.—Remember that the essentials of carpet work are strength and flatness, and matching the pattern.

Joining Felt.

Materials required.

A piece of felt, carpet thread, cotton binding to match, a piece of tailor's chalk.

Method of joining.

- 1.—Chalk a line down centre of felt and cut with sharp penknife. Rule a chalk line $\frac{3}{4}$ in. from cut edge on each piece.
- 2.—Bring up thread on right side of right chalk line well secured and pass it horizontally through centre of felt on both sides.
- 3.—Bring up in left hand chalk line and make a running stitch downwards, inserting the needle through middle of felt again, and bring up in right chalk line and make a running stitch downwards and through again.
- 4.—Continue to end, and bind with cotton binding but do not let binding or stitches show on right side.
- 5.—Oversew outer edges, fell inner edges and mitre corners of binding.
- 6.—Press with a heavy hot iron on wrong side without damping to avoid shrinking.

A Skin Rug.

Materials required.

A piece of skin and piece of felt or cloth to contrast with colour of skin.

Method of Making.

- 1.—Cut skin on the back with sharp penknife, using a ruler or chalk line as a guide.
- 2.—Seam edges together on wrong side making very small stitches and using a very fine needle.
- 3.—Push fur down on to right side with needle while working to avoid getting any through on to the wrong side.
- 4.—Mount skin in middle of felt or cloth.
- 5.—Press back fur and mark 2 ends and 1 side to which skin reaches with chalk.
- 6.—Seam two ends and one side to cloth.
- 7.—Leave one side loose to enable back of fur to be examined, and if need be, repaired.
- 8.—The felt or cloth should be pinked; this may be done by marking and cutting out the edge of a piece of cardboard with a sixpenny piece all the way down, and laying the cardboard on the edge of the felt, chalking and cutting it with a fine pair of scissors.

Upholstering a Wicker Chair.

Materials required.

A wicker chair, cretonne, flock, unbleached calico, glazed calico to match material, buttons, mattress twine and a mattress needle. Buy amount of material according to the size of chair. This can be ascertained by measuring the parts of the chair which are to be upholstered, allowing for turnings and curve formed by filling, etc. Allow 1 lb. of flock to the square foot.

Method of Upholstering.

- 1.—First take a paper pattern of parts of chair to be upholstered.
- 2.—Cut out seat double in unbleached calico, allowing 1 in. for turnings all round, and 1 in. for tufting. Cut out back allowing 1 in. for turnings and 2 ins. for curve.
- 3.—Cut a box 4 inches deep for the cushion of seat.
- 4.—Machine unbleached calico of back and seat on the wrong side, leaving openings for filling.
- 5.—Turn on right side and stuff evenly, paying particular attention to corners.
- 6.—Sew up the openings securely.
- 7.—Cut some cretonne on the cross 1 in. wide, sufficiently long to pipe the edges, which have to be piped, and run and backstitch the piping cord in.
- 8.—Cut out covers for cushions slightly larger than unbleached covers.

9.—Be careful the pattern in all parts runs the right way, and in the case of making two arm cushions, etc., the pattern must match exactly. If the pattern is large the centre ornamentation must come in the centre of seat and back, and must be in a straight line one with the other.

- 10.—Machine, inserting piping where required, and leaving one end open for slipping over.
- 11.—When the cushions are not removable the backs should be of glazed calico to match.
- 12.—Slip over the cushions and sew up.
- 13.—Button the cushions evenly so that the buttons form diamonds i.e., the buttons of 2nd row come between those of 1st row; 3rd row buttons come beneath those of first row; 4th, beneath those of 2nd row, and so on.
- 14.—Tuft, using mattress twine and needle, but unlike mattress have buttons on top side only.
- 15.—Tie twine ends of tufts at back of cushion to back of chair.
- 16.—Secure top of back cushion to chair with stitches of twine. Let cushion fit well under rim of chair.
- 17.—The lower cushion is not attached, but the twine is tied into tailor knots and neatly cut.
- 18.—If a chair has a "roll over" allow extra for making roll and stuff evenly and thinly.

N.B.—More elaborately upholstered wicker chairs have edges of cushion tacked to the chair. In this case gimp to match cushions must be used to neaten and give a general finish. It is placed at the extreme edge of cushion overlapping on to the chair and is secured by tiny gimp nails.

Upholstering a Hair-Stuffed Chair.

Materials required.

A small wooden chair, stained and polished, a piece of silk tapestry, tin tacks, brass headed nails, upholsterer's black linen, unglazed holland, some hair, webbing, and cotton wool. Quantities according to size of chair. Hammer, pliers, and pincers.

Method of Upholstering.

- 1.—Have sufficient strong upholsterer's webbing to go four times across the cavity of the chair and a few inches extra.
- 2.—Fix them across the opening of the chair; two pieces going one way and two the other, interlacing.
- 3.—Nail first end very securely, having a double fold for strength.
- 4.—Stretch as tightly as possible and nail at the other end securely.
- 5.—Cut webbing as required after stretching and nailing both sides.
- 6.—Over the webbing nail a piece of strong hessian or sacking, allowing $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch for turnings.
- 7.—Place some well teased-out hair on this and cover with a piece of unglazed holland; nail it down with tin tacks.
- 8.—Over this place a large, thick, smooth piece of cotton wool. Place on the tapestry, being careful to have the middle of design (if any) exactly in the middle of chair. Fix temporarily with tacks.
- 9.—Hammer in brass-headed nails round the edge of the tapestry in a square, circle, or any other shape. Let the nails almost touch each other. The tapestry must be well stretched.
- 10.—If any nail goes in crookedly, or tapestry becomes loose, remove nail carefully with pliers and rectify fault.
- 11.—When the upper part is done nail a piece of upholsterer's black linen over the lower opening of the chair, allowing 1 inch turning all round.

Cretonne Chair Cover.

Materials required.

14 yards of cretonne (not ribbed or thick), cotton to match, piping cord No. 3, one knot of No. 4 linen tape $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, 4 patent fasteners, No. 24. white cotton.

Method of Making.

- 1.—Take a pattern of the part of chair to be covered.
- 2.—Pin pattern on to cretonne, having the centre of the design *exactly* in the middle.
- 3.—Cut out, allowing $\frac{1}{2}$ inch turnings.
- 4.—The pattern described covers a chair with a rounded seat, and at the back two squares of material are cut away to enable the chair cover to fit round the legs at the back of the chair.
- 5.—Cut strips of cretonne about 4 inches deep, weft way, for the frill at the front and sides of cover.
- 6.—Join, seaming selvages together (front and sides).
- 7.—Make a narrow hem at one edge.
- 8.—Gather frill $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from top, stroke and distribute fulness evenly, marking thirds with pins.
- 9.—Cut sufficient material on the cross, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide, for piping. Crease in half.
- 10.—Lay piping cord in and run and backstitch or machine.
- 11.—If it is necessary to join the strips, join on the cross.
- 12.—Join frill on to cover, inserting piping and allowing two thirds of frills to sides and one third to front.
- 13.—Secure by stitching or machining, after tacking.
- 14.—Allow turnings to lie on cover and tack on linen tape to cover untidiness, stretching it well.
- 15.—Fell tape down on both sides.
- 16.—Treat back of cretonne cover in exactly the same way, i.e., piping and sewing on frill.
- 17.—Mitre extra fulness at two front sides of chair.
- 18.—Turn in material where cover meets chair legs at back and neaten, sew on linen tape flat except at inner part of square where it is twisted twice.
- 19.—Buttonhole inner angles.
- 20.—Sew on two patent fasteners at each side to secure.

CURTAINS.

General Rules for Making Curtains.

- 1.—If required full length measure from curtain pole to floor of room, plus 6 inches to allow for turnings and top heading.
- 2.—If measuring for fringe or other trimming take length round curtain, with the exception of the top, plus half a yard to allow for turnings and easing on when sewing. For a gathered frill allow $1\frac{1}{2}$ times distance round curtain and depth of frill at each corner.
- 3.—Choose material at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards wide to avoid a selvedge join.
- 4.—Begin by cutting top and bottom of curtain perfectly straight to ensure its hanging well. Do not follow the threads, which are often crooked.
- 5.—Tack it before machining in every case.
- 6.—If economy is desired fringe need be sewn on one side of the curtain only.

Method of making a Casement Curtain.

Materials required.

31 inches of 34 inch tussore silk, 2 yards of clip fringe to match, a reel of silk twist to match, twelve little curtain rings and one yard ribbon.

Method of Making.

- 1.—Make a turning of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the top edge on the wrong side. Get the fold quite straight but do not follow threads.
- 2.—Work three rows of gathering, one above the raw edge, one on it, and one just below it.
- 3.—Draw up to half width of curtain and secure.

- 4.—Turn up a hem of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches at bottom and hem or machine.
- 5.—Tack a piece of ribbon at the back of the gathers, then fell it top and bottom.
- 6.—Make narrow turnings at the sides on to the wrong side.
- 7.—Tack on the clip fringe at both sides, turning in a narrow piece at top and bottom, run and backstitch near edge of fringe.
- 8.—Remove all tacking threads.
- 9.—Place rings perpendicularly on the ribbon which covers the gathers about three inches apart. Secure by button holing. Press carefully with a warm iron on the wrong side.

BLINDS.

Blind Making—Various Methods of making up Blinds.

- 1.—Plain.
- 2.—Lace Edge.
- 3.—Lace and Insertion.
- 4.—Scalloped.
- 5.—Scalloped and Fringed.

General Rules for Blind Making.

- 1.—When measuring take length of blind and 6 inches over to allow for a hem and a piece to go round roller at top and turning at the top.
- 2.—For width measure size of roller less one inch, so that the blind will be $\frac{1}{2}$ inch narrower than the roller on each side.
- 3.—Pay great attention to cutting blind and spare no pains to get exact measurements.
- 4.—Never follow threads as they are seldom accurate.
- 5.—If blind material of exact width can be obtained no turnings for hems at sides need be made.

Making a Blind.

Materials required.

1 yard unglazed holland, $\frac{1}{2}$ yard insertion, $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of lace to match, 40 cotton and thin thread to match, 2 yards holland blind cord, 2 acorns or tassels, roller with fittings, helmet and lathe (17 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long). The specimen blind when finished is 33 inches long and 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide.

Method of making up.

- 1.—Make hems of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches down the sides with a first turning of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.
- 2.—Tack perfectly straight and even and secure by "blind stitch" which is herringboning worked so that there is only one thread taken up at the top and bottom, thus giving the stitches a more slanting appearance.
- 3.—Lay the lace right side uppermost at the bottom of the blind on right side, and above it allow the width of the lathe and a trifle more for turning.
- 4.—Lay the insertion right side uppermost with the lower edge reaching to the place where the lathe will afterwards be placed.
- 5.—Turn in the sides of the lace and insertion so that they only extend to the inner sides of hems of blind. Tack and then stitch on securely by hand or machine.
- 6.—Cut away blind to within $\frac{3}{8}$ inch of stitching. Tuck in turning of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and neatly hem down on to lace and insertion, hem $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep, and as invisible as possible. Buttonhole all corners.
- 7.—Turn in narrow hems and oversew $\frac{1}{4}$ at bottom of blind. Sew a false hem $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep at back of blind between lace and insertion and side hems.
- 8.—Leave one end open for insertion of lathe which must have been scrubbed and sandpapered and allowed to dry. If lathe holder becomes puckered when lathe is put in withdraw the latter and shrink material by using a damp cloth and a warm iron.

9.—The lathe may be narrowed at both ends in wedge fashion to enable the joining at ends to look neat when done. Re-insert lathe and sew up open end.

10.—Screw a helmet on wrong side of blind and in middle of lathe allowing it to slant downwards.

11.—Fix $\frac{3}{4}$ yard of cord in helmet by means of a knot and attach an acorn or tassel at the other end.

12.—Place roller with double wheel to right. Rule a straight line along the roller.

13.—Place blind right side down on table, the bottom away from worker. Turn $\frac{1}{4}$ inch at top on to the wrong side of blind, perfectly straight. This is most essential.

14.—Place this turn exactly to the ruled line, the edge of the blind $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from either end of the roller.

15.—Nail each end firmly. Draw the blind tightly round the roller, secure again with a tack at either end and loop stitch the edges together perfectly straight, keeping pencilled line as a guide.

16.—Attach cord to roller at double wheel side and attach a tassel or acorn at the other end.

PART II. MACHINING.

The machine of which the working is described is a 28 K. Singer.

Care of Sewing Machine.

1.—When purchasing a sewing machine choose a good make and avoid interfering unnecessarily with tensions, etc.

2.—Oil frequently when in use with a good oil.

3.—Do not oil before going away for a holiday.

4.—Keep machine in a safe, dry place, and keep cover on to preserve it from dust.

5.—Avoid pulling fabric through when machining, as this is apt to bend the needle.

6.—Choose thread suitable to material.

To Thread Needle.

1.—Place reel of cotton on spool-pin at top of machine.

2.—Pass thread through eyelet at the top of the front of the face-plate, and downwards between the tension discs.

3.—Pass from right to left through eyelet, in taking up spring.

4.—Up and through the eyelet hole in the end of the take-up lever from the front.

5.—Pass into the thread guard on the front of the face plate, and under the thread guide on the lower end of the needle bar.

6.—Pass from left to right through eye of needle and leave a free end of about three inches.

To Fix the Needle.

1.—Hold needle in left hand with flat side of shank towards arm of machine.

2.—Raise needle bar to its highest point.

3.—Put the needle up in the clamp as far as it will go.

4.—Tighten the thumb screw.

To Wind the Bobbin.

1.—Loosen balance wheel by turning stop motion friction screw outside balance wheel towards worker.

2.—Press back bobbin-winder until the balance wheel bears upon rubber on the pulley with sufficient pressure to drive it.

3.—Place bobbin in bobbin-winder and reel of cotton on spool-pin at top of machine.

4.—Draw thread into the eyelet in the face plate as in sewing, thence into the eyelets in the thread guide of the winder, first at the lower end then at the top.

5.—Secure the free end of thread by placing it between the head of the bobbin and the cup at the end of the bobbin-winder spindle.

6.—Turn handle of balance wheel as in sewing until bobbin is sufficiently full of cotton.

7.—Pull back bobbin-winder and remove bobbin.

8.—Turn stop motion friction screw from worker to clamp balance wheel ready for sewing.

To Remove Shuttle.

1.—Open front slide of machine.

2.—Turn balance wheel towards worker till shuttle and carrier come full under opening.

3.—Depress point of shuttle with thumb and raise other end with first finger.

4.—Avoid trying to lift shuttle by spring.

To Thread Shuttle.

1.—Hold shuttle between thumb and finger of left hand with point towards worker.

2.—Have thread on bobbin coming from top side towards right.

3.—Insert bobbin in shuttle, drawing thread down slit in the latter.

4.—Next draw thread up under spring.

5.—Leave a free end about three inches long.

To Replace Shuttle and Prepare for Sewing.

1.—Have shuttle carrier exactly under opening.

2.—Place shuttle holding bobbin in carrier with point towards worker and close the slide.

3.—With left hand take hold of needle thread letting it lie slack.

4.—Turn balance wheel towards worker, until needle moves down and up to its highest point, thus catching shuttle thread.

5.—Draw needle thread gently and loop of shuttle thread will appear.

6.—Lift loop with needle or pin and draw shuttle thread up through hole in throat plate.

7.—Lay both threads back across feed points.

8.—Be sure every part is clean before beginning to sew.

Rules for Machining.

1.—Place material beneath needle.

2.—Lower presser foot.

3.—Turn wheel towards worker by turning handle in opposite direction.

4.—Work steadily, not in jerks.

5.—Test stitches first on a small piece of material.

6.—If stitch is too large turn screw on side of arm (near trade mark) to left; if too small in opposite direction.

7.—Do not alter pressure on material unless absolutely necessary. For very fine materials turn thumbscrew of presser bar to left, for very heavy materials to right.

8.—Tension of needle thread is increased by turning screw at side of face-plate nearest to worker to right, it is decreased by turning it to left.

9.—Tension of shuttle thread is regulated by turning small screw with screw driver to right to increase, to left to decrease.

10.—Tension of needle thread should be a little stiffer than that of shuttle thread.

11.—Tensions should be regulated so as to lock the stitch in the middle of the material.

To Remove Work.

- 1.—Raise needle bar to highest point.
- 2.—Raise presser-bar lifter with first finger of right hand and at the same time press slightly with thumb upon the tension release (over tension discs).
- 3.—Continue pressure, drawing work backwards with left hand, and about two inches to the left.
- 4.—Cut threads close to goods, leaving two inches of thread with which to begin sewing again.
- 5.—It is not necessary to tie stitches if a lockstitch machine is used.
- 6.—If a chain stitch is used, pull outer thread through to wrong side and tie twice in a reef knot.

Relative Sizes of Needles and Threads.

Class and Variety of Needle Used 15 x 1.

Size of Needles (Flat Shank)	Class of Work to Sew.	Size of Cotton, Linen or Silk.
O	Very thin Muslin, Cambrics, Linen, etc.	100 to 150 Cotton. 30 Silk.
B	Very fine Calicoes, Linens, Shirtings, fine Silk Goods, etc.	80 to 100 Cotton. 24 to 30 Silk.
$\frac{1}{2}$	Shirtings, Sheetings, Bleached Calicoes, Muslins, Silk and general domestic goods, and all classes of general work	60 to 80 Cotton. 20 Silk.
I	All kinds of heavy Calicoes, light Woollen Goods, heavy Silk, Seaming, Stitching, etc.	40 to 60 Cotton. 16 to 18 Silk.
2	Tickings, Woollen Goods, Trousers, Boys' Clothing, Corsets, Cloaks, Mantles, etc.	24 to 40 Cotton. 10 to 12 Silk.
3	Heavy Woollens, Tickings, Bags, Heavy Coats, Trousers, etc., Heavy Clothing generally.	20 to 24 Cotton. 60 to 80 Linen.
4	Bags, Coarse Cloths, Heavy Goods, of any texture.	40 to 60 Linen, or very coarse Cotton.



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